

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 DHA-05 MCT-01 /036 W
-----127671 311150Z /41

P R 311033Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHARESLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5169
INFO AMCONSUL MUNICH

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 6393

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE, SHUM, CVIS, RO
SUBJECT: CANAL GROUP AND ASSOCIATES

REF: A. BUCHAREST 5960; B. BUCHAREST 5850; C. M. WILLIAMS
MEMO OF 8-15-77 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY. LATEST UP-DATE ON "CANAL GROUP" AND OTHER
DISSIDENTS PROVIDED BY ADRIAN MUTICA, WHO VISITED EMBASSY
AUGUST 30 IN COMPANY OF ADRIANE SCHMIEDIGEN, GIRLFRIEND OF
CANAL GROUP MEMBER DRAGOS NEAMTU (REF A). PAIR REITERATED
PARTICULARS OF SITUATION AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED (REFS A AND
B). SITUATION REMAINS ESSENTIALLY UNCHANGED, BUT ORIGINAL
GROUP HAS GAINED ASSOCIATES AND NOW NUMBERS TWENTY-TWO,
LOCATED IN THREE SEPARATE AREAS BUT NEVERTHELESS FREQUENTLY
IN TOUCH AND ACTIVELY COORDINATING THEIR ACTIVITIES. HUNGER
STRIKE IS STILL THREATENED. END SUMMARY.

2. ORIGINAL "CANAL GROUP" (HOTEL CLERKS NEGRESCU, NITA,
PAUNESCU AND WINDISCH AND LABORER MARINESCU PLUS DRAGOS
NEAMTU AND VASILE CONSTANTINESCU) IS STILL OCCUPIED ON
THE REVIVED SHIP CANAL PROJECT AT MEDGIDEA. A SECOND
GROUP (MUTICA, CORNELIU URDAREANU, ADRIAN SINCA, CORNEL
MUNTEANU, CHRISTIAN IONESCU AND CONSTANTIN HULDUBAN) IS
SIMILARLY OCCUPIED ON AN IRRIGATION CANAL PROJECT AT
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INSULA MARE NEAR BRAILA. THIRD GROUP IS COMPOSED OF
ASSOCIATES WHO LIVE AND WORK IN BUCHAREST AND APPARENTLY
PROVIDE AID AND COMFORT TO THEIR RESTICATED CONFRERES
DURING THE LATTER'S FREQUENT "ESCAPES" TO THE CITY. THIS
GROUP INCLUDES GIRLFRIEND ADRIANE, HER MOTHER, MARIUS GROSU
(ACCORDING TO MUTICA THE SOLE ONE OF A GROUP OF YOUNG
SIGNATORIES OF ONE OF GOMA'S APPEALS WHO STILL REMAINS

WITHOUT A PASSPORT), CHRISTIAN ONUTU, MIHAI GHERMAN, SERBAN STANCIULESCU, GOERGE BALAUREA AND A YOUNG COUPLE, LIVIU AND ANGELA BURESTIU.

3. FIRST TWO GROUPS HAVE BEEN SENTENCED BY COURT TO A YEAR'S LABOR ON THE EXCAVATIONS IN WHAT MUTICA TERMS A PERVERSION OF LAWS 24 AND 25, EITHER BY BEING FIRED FROM THEIR JOBS AND THEN TRIED AEMUNEMPLOYED VAGRANTS OR, AS IN HIS CASE, BY BEING SENTENCED TO PUNITIVE LABOR WITHOUT FIRST HAVING BEEN OFFERED ANY GAINFUL EMPLOYMENT AS PROVIDED BY LAW 24. MUTICA CLAIMS ONE OF GROUP (HULDUBAN) IS DIAGNOSED SCHIZOPHRENIC WITH MEDICAL EXEMPTION FROM WORK AND THAT HE HIMSELF WAS FOUR TIMES DECLARED MEDICALLY UNFIT FOR MILITARY SERVICE ON BASIS HIS FRAIL PHYSIQUE (1M 86CMS, 50 MILOS). WORKING CONDITIONS (REF C) ARE NOT GOOD AND Q RK IS CLEARLY PUNITIVE IN NATURE, BUT IT IS NOT PENAL LABOR AND MEMBERS OF GROUPS FREQUENTLY MANAGE TRAVEL TO BUCHAREST. SIX OF THE BUCHAREST GROUP ARE STILL GAINFULLY EMPLOYED AND HAVE NOT YET BEEN BEFORE THE AUTHORITIES.

4. AIM OF ENTIRE GROUP IS AVOWEDLY EMIGRATION, AND THEIR ACTIVITIES ARE CALCULATED TO THAT END. SCHMIEDIGENS HAVE BEEN TO FRG EMBASSY REQUESTING ASSISTANCE ON BASIS OF CLAIMED BIRTH OF FIRL'S GRANDFATHER IN DUSSELDORF. CONFIDENTIAL

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OTHERS, ACCORDING TO MUTICA, HOPE TO GAIN ENTRY TO AUSTRIA UNDER ITS LIBERAL PROVISIONS FOR REFUGEES. MUTICA VERIFIED THAT, WITH THIS AIM IN MIND, THE SIX IN BRAILA GROUP AND THE SIX WORKING BUCHAREST ASSOCIATES HAVE WRITTEN LETTER TO RFE, WHICH THEY HOPE WILL BE BROADCAST NEXT WEEK (SEPT. 3 OR 4). THE BROADCAST WOULD ACTIVATE A COORDINATED PLAN OF ALL GROUPS TO HOLD THE LONG-DISCUSSED COMBINED HUNGER STRIKE IN BUCHAREST, PRESUMABLY IN EXPECTATION THAT PUBLICITY FROM BROADCAST WOULD PROVIDE A DEGREE OF PROTECTION THAT WOULD PERSUADE AUTHORITIES TO GRANT PASSPORTS RATHER THAN RESORT TO FURTHER PUNITIVE COERCION. BARNES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, VISAS, ARRESTS, DISSIDENT FACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 31-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BUCHAR06393
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770314-1090
Format: TEL
From: BUCHAREST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977085/aaaaadsl.tel
Line Count: 106
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b49c1759-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BUCHAREST 5960, 77 BUCHAREST 5850
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1566094
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CANAL GROUP AND ASSOCIATES
TAGS: CVIS, SHUM, RO, CSCE, CANAL GROUP
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b49c1759-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009